

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Kolakowski on 06/04/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 19 has been amended as follows: In line 3 of claim 19, "fro" has been changed to -- from --

Claim 21 has been amended as follows: In line 2 of claim 21, "19" has been changed to -- 41--

Claim 29 has been amended as follows: In line 2 of claim 29, "m28" has been changed to --28--

Claim 38 has been amended as follows: In line 16 of claim 38, "apportion" has been changed to -- a portion --

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to disclose the following patentable limitations of the applicant's claimed and disclosed invention:

The prior art fails to disclose a catheter having an electrode at a first end having at least one outlet opening connected to an irrigation channel wherein a thermally insulating casing insulates the outlet opening of the fluid outlet.

The closest prior art is regarded as Webster. However, Webster fails to disclose that the thermally insulating casing is disposed on the outlet branch as required by the claim in order to thermally shield the electrode from the cooling fluid.

The combinations of the claimed limitations are novel and found to be allowable over the prior art. The cited reference taken singly or in combination does not anticipate or make obvious the applicant's claimed invention.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 14-22, 27-29, 31, 38-42 and 45-48 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMANDA SCOTT whose telephone number is (571)270-7103. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on (571)272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. S./  
Examiner, Art Unit 3739

/Linda C Dvorak/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art  
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